

# Advent

**hope**

**DECEMBER 1**

**peace**

**DECEMBER 8**

**JESUS**

**DECEMBER 25**

**joy**

**DECEMBER 15**

**love**

**DECEMBER 22**

# Advent

## FAMILY DEVOTIONALS

### WEEK 1: HOPE

**"THE DAYS ARE COMING," ANNOUNCES THE LORD. "AT THAT TIME I WILL FULFILL MY GOOD PROMISE TO MY PEOPLE. I MADE IT TO THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL AND JUDAH.**

**"HERE IS WHAT I WILL DO IN THOSE DAYS AND AT THAT TIME.**

**I WILL MAKE A GODLY BRANCH GROW FROM DAVID'S ROYAL LINE. HE WILL DO WHAT IS FAIR AND RIGHT IN THE LAND.**

**IN THOSE DAYS JUDAH WILL BE SAVED. JERUSALEM WILL LIVE IN SAFETY. AND IT WILL BE CALLED**

**"THE LORD WHO MAKES US RIGHT WITH HIMSELF". JEREMIAH 33:14-16**

**THE FIRST CANDLE OF ADVENT IS THE HOPE CANDLE. THIS CANDLE REMINDS US THAT NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS IN OUR LIFE, WE CAN HAVE HOPE IN JESUS. WE HAVE HOPE BECAUSE GOD ALWAYS KEEPS HIS PROMISES.**

**MORE VERSES TO READ:**

**PSALM 130:5**

**MICAH 7:7**

**JOHN 16:33**

**QUESTIONS TO DISCUSS:**

**WHAT IS HOPE? HOW DOES GOD GIVE US HOPE?**

### WEEK 2: LOVE

**FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD THAT HE GAVE HIS ONE AND ONLY SON SO THAT WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM SHALL NOT PERISH BUT HAVE ETERNAL LIFE. JOHN 3:16**

**TONIGHT WE LIGHT THE CANDLE REPRESENTING LOVE. THIS CANDLE REMINDS US THAT GOD LOVES US NO MATTER WHAT AND THAT HE LOVED US ENOUGH TO SEND HIS SON JESUS AS A GIFT FOR ALL MANKIND.**

**MORE VERSES TO READ:**

**JOHN 15:12**

**ROMANS 5:8**

**ROMANS 8:37-39**

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

**WHAT WAYS HAS GOD SHOWN YOU LOVE? HOW CAN YOU SHOW LOVE TO OTHERS?**

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## FAMILY DEVOTIONALS

### WEEK 3: JOY

AND THERE WERE SHEPHERDS LIVING OUT IN THE FIELDS NEARBY, KEEPING WATCH OVER THEIR FLOCKS AT NIGHT. AN ANGEL OF THE LORD APPEARED TO THEM, AND THE GLORY OF THE LORD SHONE AROUND THEM, AND THEY WERE TERRIFIED. BUT THE ANGEL SAID TO THEM, "DO NOT BE AFRAID. I BRING YOU GOOD NEWS THAT WILL CAUSE GREAT JOY FOR ALL THE PEOPLE. TODAY IN THE TOWN OF DAVID A SAVIOR HAS BEEN BORN TO YOU; HE IS THE MESSIAH, THE LORD". LUKE 2 8:11

TONIGHT WE LIGHT THE JOY CANDLE. THIS CANDLE REMINDS US THAT WE CAN HAVE JOY BECAUSE OF JESUS'S ARRIVAL AND BECAUSE OF THE GIFT OF SALVATION THROUGH HIM.

**MORE VERSES TO READ:**

**GALATIANS 5:22**

**ROMANS 15:13**

**JOHN 15:11**

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

**WHAT IS JOY? HOW DOES GOD GIVE US JOY?**

### WEEK 4: PEACE

A CHILD WILL BE BORN TO US.  
A SON WILL BE GIVEN TO US.  
HE WILL RULE OVER US.  
AND HE WILL BE CALLED  
WONDERFUL ADVISER AND MIGHTY GOD.  
HE WILL ALSO BE CALLED FATHER WHO LIVES  
FOREVER  
AND PRINCE WHO BRINGS PEACE.

THERE WILL BE NO LIMIT TO HOW GREAT HIS  
AUTHORITY IS.  
THE PEACE HE BRINGS WILL NEVER END.  
HE WILL RULE ON DAVID'S THRONE  
AND OVER HIS KINGDOM.  
HE WILL MAKE THE KINGDOM STRONG AND  
SECURE.  
HIS RULE WILL BE BASED ON WHAT IS FAIR AND  
RIGHT.

IT WILL LAST FOREVER.  
THE LORD'S GREAT LOVE WILL MAKE SURE  
THAT HAPPENS.  
HE RULES OVER ALL. ISAIAH 9: 6-7

TONIGHT WE LIGHT THE CANDLE  
REPRESENTING PEACE AS A REMINDER THAT  
WE CAN HAVE PEACE BECAUSE OF JESUS AND  
ALL THAT HE REPRESENTS. JESUS IS THE  
PRINCE OF PEACE WHO HAS BROUGHT PEACE  
TO OUR LIVES.

**MORE VERSES TO READ:**

**LUKE 2:13-14**

**JOHN 14:27**

**PSALM 29:11**

**DISCUSSION: WHAT IS PEACE? HOW DOES  
JESUS GIVE US PEACE?**

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## FAMILY DEVOTIONALS

### **CHRISTMAS: JESUS IS HERE!**

**THIS IS HOW THE BIRTH OF JESUS THE MESSIAH CAME ABOUT: HIS MOTHER MARY WAS PLEDGED TO BE MARRIED TO JOSEPH, BUT BEFORE THEY CAME TOGETHER, SHE WAS FOUND TO BE PREGNANT THROUGH THE HOLY SPIRIT. BECAUSE JOSEPH HER HUSBAND WAS FAITHFUL TO THE LAW, AND YET DID NOT WANT TO EXPOSE HER TO PUBLIC DISGRACE, HE HAD IN MIND TO DIVORCE HER QUIETLY.**

**BUT AFTER HE HAD CONSIDERED THIS, AN ANGEL OF THE LORD APPEARED TO HIM IN A DREAM AND SAID, "JOSEPH SON OF DAVID, DO NOT BE AFRAID TO TAKE MARY HOME AS YOUR WIFE, BECAUSE WHAT IS CONCEIVED IN HER IS FROM THE HOLY SPIRIT. SHE WILL GIVE BIRTH TO A SON, AND YOU ARE TO GIVE HIM THE NAME JESUS, BECAUSE HE WILL SAVE HIS PEOPLE FROM THEIR SINS."**

**ALL THIS TOOK PLACE TO FULFILL WHAT THE LORD HAD SAID THROUGH THE PROPHET: "THE VIRGIN WILL CONCEIVE AND GIVE BIRTH TO A SON, AND THEY WILL CALL HIM IMMANUEL" (WHICH MEANS "GOD WITH US"). MATTHEW 1:18-23**

**TODAY IS CHRISTMAS. THE DAY WE HAVE WAITED FOR AND PREPARED FOR IS FINALLY HERE! TODAY WE CELEBRATE THE BIRTH OF JESUS. AS WE WAITED FOR THIS DAY, WE LIT FOUR CANDLES, WHICH REPRESENTED: HOPE, LOVE, JOY, AND PEACE. WHEN WE LIGHT THIS CANDLE WE REMEMBER THAT JESUS IS THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD. HE CAME TO SAVE US FROM OUR SINS AND GIVE US ETERNAL LIFE.**

#### **MORE VERSES TO READ:**

**JOHN 8:12**

**LUKE 2:11**

**JAMES 1:17**

#### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

**WHY IS IT IMPORTANT THAT JESUS CAME INTO THE WORLD? HOW IS YOUR LIFE DIFFERENT TODAY BECAUSE JESUS CAME?**

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## FAMILY ACTIVITY CARDS

Brainstorm random acts of kindness then pick a day when you'll do those good deeds with your family, or gather a small group of people to do it with you.

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## FAMILY ACTIVITY CARDS

Make or buy an ornament that represents something significant for your family this year. Make sure to write the date on the back or bottom of the ornament.

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## FAMILY ACTIVITY CARDS

Put up a tent or build your own fort and have a Christmas campout right in your living room.

Decorate your tent or fort with Christmas lights and spend time reading some of your favorite Christmas books before bed.

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## FAMILY ACTIVITY CARDS

Create a holiday care package for someone who needs some extra holiday cheer. Include a card, photos, and a few special treats.



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## FAMILY BOX INSTRUCTIONS

This Christmas season we want to equip you to slow down and take some time to celebrate the true joy of Christmas.

### INCLUDED IN THE BOX:

- An advent wreath with candles and weekly devotionals to be read each Sunday of Advent.
- Family activity cards
- A nativity scene for preschoolers